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Former bandmates reuniting for Kammerstock to benefit longtime drummer

**By DEB KUNKLE
City Editor**
OELWEIN — Those of us who grew up in Oelwein in the past five or six decades remember there was always a live band playing somewhere in town every weekend. From lounge acts to country to rock n’ roll, there was plenty of music and great musicians to listen and dance to come the weekend.

While the types of bands were varied, at least 11 of them shared one common

Kammer made his debut surreptitiously at the age of 10, smuggled into the former Berger’s Tap to perform with Johnny Clendenen and the Impalas. It didn’t take long for other musicians to realize he was an exceptionally talented kid. His drumming and singing were also featured with Milt Campbell and the Country Buddies, followed by The Plainsmen, and The New Beginning.

According to Kammer’s page on the website: hubcitymusic.cloudmurphy.com, he moved into the rock style of music playing with popular bands Blue Horizon and Shatter. Other rock bands included The Blitz Brothers, The Basics, and The Bruce Bearer Band. Not wanting to get stuck in just



Tom and Brenda Kammer

one music style, Kammer showed his versatility also playing with The Keith Thompson Trio, a well-known area lounge act, and the big band sound of Tuxedo Junction.

The hubcitymusic website is authored by another former Oelwein musician and Kammer bandmate Kelly Murphy. On Kammer’s page Murphy writes this tribute, “He was without a doubt the most sought after and go to drummer in Oelwein for over 30 years. There is an old saying among musicians, ‘the band is

**BENEFIT
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Teen not shot, but critically injured in gun accident

WEST UNION - A gun was the cause of a severe hunting injury to a teen, Sunday, Nov. 29, without being discharged.

According to a report from the Fayette County Sheriff’s Office, they responded to a

911 call saying a 17-year-old male had a neck laceration due to a hunting accident.

It was determined that Daniel Lynn Gibbs, from West Union, was squirrel hunting with a friend on private property in the 11000

block of Great River Road when Gibbs tripped over a log and impaled the barrel of a rifle into his neck. The rifle did not discharge but did cause a severe wound, according to the Sheriff’s report.

Gibbs was transported by

ambulance to Palmer Hospital in West Union and later air lifted to the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics in Iowa City and listed in critical condition.

Deputy assaulted during arrest of West Union man for trespassing

WEST UNION - A Fayette County Sheriff’s deputy sought medical care after he was assaulted during the arrest of a West Union man, Wednesday, Nov. 25.

According to a report from the Fayette County Sheriff, about 10:15 p.m., a deputy responded to a 911 hang up call in the 9000 block of Golden Road just East of West Union. Once the deputy

arrived he was confronted by a disorderly subject who was identified as Terry Scott Mork, 53, of West Union.

According to the Sheriff’s report, Mork had trespassed on the property and was causing a distur-



Terry Mork

bance with the owner and children who were there. When the deputy attempted to arrest Mork for the trespassing he resisted arrest and had to be taken down by several deputies. During the arrest Mork assaulted one of

the deputies who had to be taken to the hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Mork was charged with Criminal Trespassing (Simple Misdemeanor), Interference with Official Acts (Simple Misdemeanor), and Assault on a Peace Officer (“D” Felony), and transported to the Fayette County Jail where he later posted \$8500 bond.

Deadline to vote for FSA representative is Dec. 7

WEST UNION - Jesse Wegner, Fayette County Executive Director for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) would like to inform voters that this year’s election is for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 3, which consists of Banks, Center, Fremont, Harlan, Jefferson, Oran, and Scott Townships.

Ballots for this year’s county committee election have been mailed to eligible

voters. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Fayette County FSA office by the close of business on Dec. 7.

If you are an eligible voter in LAA 3 and you do not receive a ballot, contact the FSA office. Ballots will be counted at the Fayette County FSA Office on Dec. 8, at 9 a.m.

Wegner says the FSA County

Committee is a vital link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Farmers that serve on the FSA County Committee operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and make decisions regarding FSA farm programs at the local level.

“The county committee system works because of your participation,” Wegner said.

Events abound for Olde Tyme Christmas starting Friday

OELWEIN - Strolling the streets during Olde Tyme Christmas Friday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 8 p.m., will be a snowman, sponsored by Regions Bank, a reindeer sponsored by Community Bank and a polar bear sponsored by Mercy Hospital. Also on the streets to greet you for more photo opportunities will be Olaf and Elsa, sponsored by Fidelity Bank.

“Make sure to take lots of pictures to create memories with your family,” said Oelwein Chamber Director Deb Howard.

Mr. Nick’s Balloons, Petting Zoo, Mrs. Claus & Santa Phone Booth

Mr. Nick will be located at and sponsored by Midwest Collision at 126 S. Frederick making his balloon creations for all the children. “Make sure you stop by to visit with Mr. Nick and get your own balloon creation,” Howard said.

Midwest Collision is also the location for this year’s petting zoo. The petting zoo is sponsored by Veridian Credit Union. A full display of animals will be on hand for the children to pet and is a new activity for the 2015 Olde Tyme Christmas schedule.

Across the street from the animals and balloons is Buds ‘n’ Blossoms which will be home for Mrs. Claus, where she will be reading Christmas stories for the evening. Howard invites you to warm up with a cup of cider and meet Mrs. Claus. Outside of the store will be Santa’s Phone Booth where children can make a direct call to Santa. Santa Phone Booth is sponsored by Oelwein Dental Associates.

Santa will be on standby to take calls from area children to hear the wishes and wants on their Christmas lists. Located in the parking lot South of Buds n’ Blossoms, 125 S. Frederick, The booth will have a special glow, a chair to make the list givers comfortable and a special helper to make the connection between child and Santa.

“There is nothing like talking directly with Santa! Make sure you check it out,” Howard said.

Marshmallow Roast

Back by popular demand, the Oelwein Fire Department will host the Marshmallow Roast located in the Plaza Park next to the OCAD Office.

“Come join the firemen for a sweet treat and warm up by the fire,” Howard invited.

Roasting will take place from 4 to 8 p.m.

Tattoos

Join the Oelwein Cheerleaders again this year in the Plaza Conference Room for kid’s tattoos. All a glitter, your tattoo will be free and available from 4 – 8 p.m.

Craft Show/Marketplace

The Oelwein Community Plaza will be busting at the seams with vendors of all kinds this year. From your favorite crafter to home business vendors, you will find many items to help fill the items on your Christmas shopping lists. Open from 4-8 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 4, and 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 5, you will have plenty of time for shopping. Food will also be available in the Plaza from How Sweet It Is and Pizza Hut.

“Many new vendors will be on hand, with 59 spaces filled, including a strolling vendor with lighted items. Come check them out and have your Christmas shopping lists ready,” Howard said.

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

Once again, Olde Tyme Christmas will offer horse drawn wagon rides through downtown Oelwein.

“See the sites of the Christmas evening atop a horse drawn wagon through the streets filled with event goers. Whether it is a clear evening or an evening with a few flurries, you will be sure to enjoy the ride,” Howard said.

Rides are provided by Paul Anthes of Strawberry Point and sponsored this year by Volunteers for Youth. Rides will begin and end in the parking lot at Margaret’s Crafts at 14 West Charles. Rides are free and will take place from 4 -8 p.m.



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